WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS Additional

Flights by IA and Al

1314. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India propose to introduce additional flights on the existing routes; and

(b) if so, the details of proposal mooted in that regard for 2004-05, particularly direct flights from Delhi to all State Capitals of the Ncrth-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PAtEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air India proposes to add two additonal frequencies on the routing Mumbai/Frankfurt/Los Angeles/Frankfurt/Mumbai with B747-400 aircraft effective November 2004. Presently, Air India operates three frequencies on the above routing. It is also proposed to add one frequency with B747-400 aircraft on the routing Mumbai/Deihi/London/Delhi/Mumbai effective November 2004. Presently, Air India operates two London terminators.

Indian Airlines has plans to increase the capacity/frequency on some of the domestic and international routes in the winter schedule 2004-05 subject to availability of aircraft capacity. Indian Airlines & Alliance provide services airlinking Delhi to Guwahati and Imphal. Indian Airlines & Alliance Air have no immediate plans to provide direct flights from Delhi to other State capitals of North East.

Purchase of Carpets by Al

1315. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is **a** fact that Air India has suffered a loss of more than Rs. 2 crore on purchase of non-existent carpets from a US company sometime back;

(b) whether it is also a fact that CVC has indicted the present Commercial Director and others involved in the purchase of carpets for causing loss of revenue to Air India; and